

# Senate File 179 - Introduced

SENATE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY BOLKCOM

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for a pilot project supporting high=quality  
2 child care for low=income children.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:  
4 TLSB 1976XS 83  
5 jp/nh/8

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1 1 Section 1. Section 237A.13, Code 2009, is amended by  
1 2 adding the following new subsection:  
1 3 NEW SUBSECTION. 7A. a. The department shall implement a  
1 4 pilot project to support high=quality child care for  
1 5 low=income children. The implementation shall be limited to  
1 6 the extent of the funding designated for the pilot program.  
1 7 b. To participate in the pilot project, a child care  
1 8 facility must comply with all of the following:  
1 9 (1) The facility is accredited by the national association  
1 10 for the education of young children, meets or exceeds the Iowa  
1 11 quality preschool program standards adopted by the department  
1 12 of education, has demonstrated a high degree of quality under  
1 13 the voluntary child care quality rating system under section  
1 14 237A.30, or is a federally funded head start program that  
1 15 meets or exceeds head start performance standards.  
1 16 (2) At least sixty percent of the children receiving child  
1 17 care from the facility are participating in the state child  
1 18 care assistance program.  
1 19 (3) The facility offers a comprehensive set of services in  
1 20 addition to child care for the parents and other family  
1 21 members of the children receiving child care from the  
1 22 facility.  
1 23 c. The components of the pilot project may include but are  
1 24 not limited to the following:  
1 25 (1) Income eligibility for participating families is  
1 26 redetermined twelve months from the date of the initial  
1 27 eligibility determination and every twelve months thereafter.  
1 28 (2) Participating families are exempt from any waiting  
1 29 list applied under this section during the period of  
1 30 participation.  
1 31 (3) Participating families thought to be eligible for  
1 32 state child care assistance based upon prima facie review have  
1 33 a period of presumptive eligibility of not more than thirty  
1 34 days while eligibility is being determined.  
1 35 (4) Participating families who are also participating in  
2 1 the family investment, food assistance, hawk=i, or medical  
2 2 assistance programs or whose children are receiving free or  
2 3 reduced price meals under the federal National School Lunch  
2 4 Act and the federal Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. }  
2 5 1751=1785, have twelve months of categorical eligibility for  
2 6 the state child care assistance program.  
2 7 (5) The reimbursement methodology for facilities utilizes  
2 8 a tiered approach based upon the quality rating of a facility  
2 9 and allows reimbursement rates above the usual rate paid under  
2 10 the state child care assistance program.  
2 11 EXPLANATION  
2 12 This bill provides for a pilot project supporting  
2 13 high=quality child care for low=income children under the  
2 14 state child care assistance program in Code section 237A.13.  
2 15 The state child care assistance program is funded through a  
2 16 federal block grant and state funds.  
2 17 To participate in the pilot project, a child care facility  
2 18 (defined by Code chapter 237A as a child care center,

2 19 preschool, or a registered child development home) must meet  
2 20 certain quality standards, have at least 60 percent of the  
2 21 children receiving child care participating in the state child  
2 22 care assistance program, and provide comprehensive services to  
2 23 the families of the children receiving child care.  
2 24 The pilot project components may include an annual  
2 25 eligibility redetermination period, exemption from waiting  
2 26 list requirements under the state child care assistance  
2 27 program, a 30-day period of presumptive eligibility, state  
2 28 child care assistance program categorical eligibility based on  
2 29 family eligibility for other public programs, and tiered  
2 30 reimbursement based on a facility's quality rating.  
2 31 LSB 1976XS 83  
2 32 jp/nh/8